



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

2 NAVY ANNEX

WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

CRS

Docket No: 344-00

28 April 2000

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 26 April 2000. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Navy on 3 October 1996 at age 18. The record reflects that on 11 April 1997 you were convicted by a summary court-martial of an unauthorized absence of 77 days and missing movement.

On 22 April 1997 the commanding officer recommended that you be separated with an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct due to commission of a serious offense. When informed of the recommendation, you elected to waive your right to present your case to an administrative discharge board. After review by the discharge authority, your discharge was suspended for 12 months if not vacated sooner. On 2 June 1997 you became an unauthorized absentee. You received an other than honorable discharge in absentia on 20 June 1997. At that time you were assigned a reenlistment code of RE-4.

In its review of your application the Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and immaturity. However, the Board concluded that these factors were

not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge, given your summary court-martial conviction for a lengthy period of absence, and the need to discharge you in absentia after you departed on yet another period of absence. Therefore, the Board concluded that no change to the discharge is warranted.

Regulations require the assignment of an RE-4 reenlistment code when an individual is discharged due to misconduct. Since you have been treated no differently than others in your situation, the Board could not find an error or injustice in the assignment of your reenlistment code.

Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director